LEGISLATIVE SERVICES AGENCY OFFICE OF FISCAL AND MANAGEMENT ANALYSIS

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FISCAL IMPACT STATEMENT

LS 6424 NOTE PREPARED: Dec 9, 2010

BILL NUMBER: HB 1036 BILL AMENDED:

SUBJECT: Exemption from Hunter Education Course.

FIRST AUTHOR: Rep. Reske BILL STATUS: As Introduced

FIRST SPONSOR:

FUNDS AFFECTED: X GENERAL IMPACT: State

 $\overline{\underline{X}}$ DEDICATED FEDERAL

<u>Summary of Legislation:</u> This bill provides that an individual who is an active, reserve, or honorably discharged member of the armed forces or an active duty or retired law enforcement officer is not required to complete a hunter education course before obtaining a hunting license.

Effective Date: July 1, 2011.

Explanation of State Expenditures: The proposal could reduce state expenditures to the extent that the Department of Natural Resources (DNR) could spend less for providing hunter education. The DNR provides hunter education free of charge. IC 14-22-11-5 requires that a person born after December 31, 1986, must have successfully completed a hunter education course offered by the DNR or the DNR's agent. Under the proposal, the eligible individuals would not have to complete the hunter education course in order to obtain a license. This provision could reduce expenses generated by providing the instruction to eligible individuals. The number of individuals that the provision could apply to could be well over 50,000.

The DNR is funded through state General Fund revenues and other dedicated funds.

Explanation of State Revenues: Eliminating the requirement that certain individuals have to take the hunter education course in order to obtain a license could result in an increase in hunting licenses sold. Revenue generated by the license fee is deposited into the Fish and Wildlife Fund, which is used to finance the operations of the Division of Fish and Wildlife and the Division of Law Enforcement. For FY 2010, the DNR sold over 300,000 hunting licenses.

Explanation of Local Expenditures:

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Explanation of Local Revenues:

State Agencies Affected: DNR.

Local Agencies Affected:

Information Sources: DNR.

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